

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EARBY

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

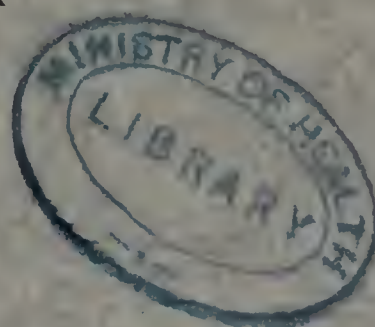
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1950

BY

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.





THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EARBY

A N N U A L     R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H

For the Year

1950.

By

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Divisional Health Office,

19a High Street,

Skipton.

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Health Committee.

-----  
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the report for the year 1950., and including as an appendix a report on the Local Health Authority's services in the West Riding County Council's No. 1. Division which covers the urban districts of Silsden, Earby, Barnoldswick and Skipton, and the rural district of Skipton.

The sections of the report dealing with housing, environmental hygiene and the supervision of food have again been compiled by your Sanitary Inspector to whom my thanks are due not only for this, but for his advice and loyal support during the year.

The report shows that the health of the district was generally satisfactory, although scarlet fever of a mild type was more prevalent, and an outbreak of a mild form of dysentery occurred towards the end of the year.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members, the Clerk and other officials, and the Staff of the Department for their kindness and courteous assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

M. HUNTER.

Medical Officer of Health.

## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

---

Councillor W. Firth. (Chairman).

" W.S. Black.  
" J. Boydell.  
" J.W. Greenwood.  
" P. Higson.  
" S. Peel.  
" R.S. Shaw.  
" J. O'Toole.

## STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT.

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Medical Officer of Health and  
Divisional Medical Officer.

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.

K. Appleton, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

A.H. Kay, A.R. San.I., M.S.I.A.



# SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Urban District ( acres) ... ..	3,519
Estimated population ... ..	5,329
Population at 1931 Census ... ..	5,577
Number of Inhabited Houses (estimated) ..	1,890
Rateable Value for General Rate ... ..	£29,404
Sum represented by a Penny rate ... ..	£112. 10s. 3d.

## BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female
Live, Legitimate ... ..	90	51	39
Illegitimate ... ..	3	2	1
Total:	93	53	40
Still, Legitimate ... ..	1	1	—
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Total:	1	1	—
Total Births:	94	54	40

## BIRTH RATES:

Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population ... ..	17.45
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births) ... ..	10.63

## DEATH RATES:

(crude).

(per 1,000 estimated population).

All causes ... ..	14.82
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	.38
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	—
Respiratory Diseases ... ..	1.13
Cancer ... ..	2.44
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ... ..	7.32

## Death Rate of Infants under One year of Age.

All Infants (per 1,000 live births) ... ..	22.
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Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality,  
Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases  
in the Year 1950.  
(Rates per 1,000 Civilian population).

	<u>England</u> <u>and</u> <u>Wales.</u>	<u>126 C.B's</u> <u>and great</u> <u>Towns incl.</u> <u>London.</u>	<u>148 smaller</u> <u>Towns (resident</u> <u>pop. 25,000 -</u> <u>50,000 at 1931</u> <u>Census).</u>	<u>London</u> <u>Admin.</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>Essex</u> <u>Urban</u> <u>District</u>
<u>BIRTHS:</u>					
Live Births.	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	17.45
Still Births.	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	.18
<u>DEATHS:</u>					
All Causes.	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	14.82
Typhoid and					
Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Whooping cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	.37
Influenza	0.10	0.49	0.10	0.07	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio.					
(incl. Polio-					
encephalitis)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	-
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	.56
<u>NOTIFICATIONS:</u>					
(corrected)					
Typhoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-
Meningococcal					
Infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	9.75
Whooping cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	4.69
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	-
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	-
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	2.43
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	1.68
Acute Polio-					
(incl. Polio-					
encephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	-
Non-paralytic.	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	-
Food Poisoning.	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	-



continued

England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s and great Towns incl. London.	148 smaller Towns (resident pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin. County.	Early Urban District.
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births.</u>				
29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3	21.50
1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.</u>				
5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	10.63

# DEATHS:

All causes under 1 year of age.

Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age.

# NOTIFICATIONS. (corrected).

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

	England and Wales.	Early U.D.
Abortion with Sepsis.	0.09	-
Other Abortions	0.05	-
Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	-
Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03	-
Other complications of the puerperium	0.15	-

(a) Per 1,000 related births.

DEATHS:  
CAUSES OF DEATH:

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis Other	1	-	-
Syphilitic Diseases	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic Neoplasms	2	4	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	3	7
Coronary diseases, angina	5	1	6
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
Other heart diseases	12	18	30
Other Circulatory diseases	1	2	3
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	-	3
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	6	8
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of War	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES:	36	43	79

## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS:

The birth rate of 17.45 shows a slight fall from last year's figure of 18.1., but is well above the 1949 figure of 13.1. The figure for England and Wales as a whole for the year 1950 was 15.8.

### DEATHS:

The crude death rate was 14.8 compared with 12.3 last year, and 11.6 for England and Wales.

The corrected death rate obtained by using the area comparability factor was 14.2. This factor is now supplied by the Registrar General and permits a comparison to be made between populations which vary in their constitution according to age and sex, and in which birth and death rates are not otherwise strictly comparable.

The causes of death in order of numerical importance were as last year:-

- (i) Heart Disease
- (ii) Cancer
- (iii) Diseases of the respiratory system
- (iv) Vascular lesions of the central nervous system

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

A rate of 21 compares favourably with a figure of 29.8 for England and Wales as a whole, and with the Earby rate of 31 in 1949.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The maternal death rate for England and Wales was 0.86 per 1,000 total births compared with 0.98 in 1949.

## SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### 1. GENERAL.

The home nursing, midwifery, health visiting, ambulance, mental health and home help services are provided by the County Council and dealt with in the Appendix. Reference will also be found there to clinic arrangements, vaccination and immunisation, the prevention of illness, and the welfare services provided under the National Assistance Act.



## 2. LABORATORY SERVICES.

The Medical Research Councils laboratories in Wakefield and Bradford are available for the examination of water, ice cream, milk and a variety of pathological specimens. They provide an excellent service and the advice and assistance of their directors has been greatly appreciated.

## 3. HOSPITAL SERVICES.

There has been little alteration in the general arrangements since the hospitals were taken over by the Regional Hospital Boards on 5th July, 1948. The majority of cases go to Burnley, Bradford or Leeds, but an increasing number are attending or being admitted to the Skipton Hospitals which now possess an improved range of consultant services. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Morton Banks Hospital, Keighley; or the Bradford Fever Hospital; and maternity cases to Cawder Ghyll Maternity Home, Skipton or to maternity beds in the Burnley Group of hospitals.

## 4. BLIND PERSONS.

There are 12 blind persons registered in the district. Supervision is given by the blind persons teacher employed by the County Council, and specialist examinations are carried out periodically by ophthalmologist.

## 5. WATER SUPPLIES.

Mr. Walker, Surveyor and Water Engineer has kindly supplied the following information:-

- (i) The water supply of the area during 1950 has been entirely satisfactory in quantity owing to the wet summer. With the exception of one instance referred to later, the quality of the water has been maintained at a high standard.
- (ii) The waters in each area of supply have been regularly examined throughout the year, samples being taken both at source and from service. In all 27 bacteriological examinations were made and save for a short period in September the results were excellent. One chemical examination was made of the water from each area of supply and the results indicated a satisfactory organic quality.
- (iii) Both waters were tested for plumbo-solvency with a negative result in each case.
- (iv) The samples of water taken from the Earby supply in September showed a count of 200 per ml. with a probable number of coliform bacilli 180+ per 100 ml. being 100% faecal. The contamination was traced to one feeder source and that feeder was diverted from the undertaking.

## WATER SUPPLIES - continued

- (v) The number of houses receiving a direct supply is 1,829 with a population of approximately 5,070. There are no stand pipe supplies.

## SECTION C - PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### 1. VENEREAL DISEASES.

Notification of these diseases is not made to the Medical Officer of Health, but the County Venereologist has been able to provide certain figures and states that only one case of venereal disease attended special treatment centres during the year.

Facilities for diagnosis and treatment are available at the Burnley and Keighley hospitals, and certain medical practitioners in the district provide a modified service. The County Council provides a social worker to follow up cases and contacts when required.

### 2. TUBERCULOSIS.

There were Six cases of pulmonary and two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year. There were two deaths from this disease giving a death rate of .375 compared with 0.36 for England and Wales.

Reference was made in the report for 1949 to the difficulty in securing hospital beds for the treatment of this disease. This year it has been somewhat less, and the time elapsing between notification and admission appears to be shorter than in some other parts of the country. The position cannot, however, be regarded as satisfactory yet, and certainly not in respect of accommodation for advanced cases.

Last year, reference was also made to the use of B.C.G. vaccine from Denmark in raising the immunity of individuals who are especially susceptible or exposed to the risks of infection. The administrative arrangements for its use having been completed, it will now be given when circumstances indicate the desirability.

Mass radiography for the detection of early or symptomless cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, has not been available in the district this year; but it is hoped that the West Riding Unit will visit Earby in 1951.

### 3. DYSENTERY.

In common with many other parts of the country, dysentery was very prevalent in the Earby district during the late autumn, and between November 23rd and December 31st one hundred and twenty six cases were notified. This outbreak was due to the Sonne type of dysentery germ which produces a relatively mild attack, and it is likely that there were additional cases which were not notified.



The age distribution was interesting and is as follows:-

0 - 5 years	58 cases
5 - 10 "	24 "
10 - 15 "	6 "
15 - 25 "	3 "
25 years and over	35 "

Investigations showed that the infection was being spread largely from children at an infants school to playmates and parents, and certain classes were closed on December 18th. There was no evidence of the disease being spread by food, milk, fruit or any of the other common vehicles of infection. All notified cases were visited by members of the staff of the health department, and advice given to them and their relatives as to the measures necessary to limit the spread of infection. Special attention was given to the possibility of spread through shops, cafes and canteens.

#### 4. FOOD POISONING.

Although no cases were notified in the district during the year this illness is still very prevalent throughout the country, and it has recently been estimated that in 1949 well over 11,000 people were affected. The greatest danger lies in processed, made-up and re-heated meat dishes (i.e. cold meats, stews, pies, brawn, sausage, tongue, gravy etc)., which become infected with disease producing bacteria during preparation or use, and when kept provide an excellent medium for these germs to multiply upon, and to produce their toxins.

If such foods were cooked and eaten on the same day, or if that is not practicable, cooled rapidly after cooking and refrigerated whenever possible, there would be an immediate and substantial reduction in the number of cases.

Other articles of food which commonly cause poisoning are shell fish and processed fish, duck eggs, trifles, ice cream, and cream buns. The danger of contracting the disease in a canteen, restaurant, hotel or other institution should also be appreciated; for one act of carelessness in the preparation or handling of food there may result in a large number of people becoming ill. Close attention has been given to this problem of food hygiene during the year, and newly devised model byelaws were adopted by the Council.

#### 5. WHOOPING COUGH.

One or more cases were notified in all but two months of the year, making a total of 25.

#### 6. MEASLES.

Up to three cases occurred in seven months of the year, making a total of 13. Although this disease was widespread in adjacent districts in the autumn, the incidence in Earby was still low at the end of the year.

7. DIPHTHERIA.

It is gratifying to report another year without a single case of this disease.

## 8. SCARLET FEVER.

This disease, although of a mild type has again been prevalent throughout the year, there being 52 cases compared with 36 in 1949. Although every case has been investigated, and particular attention paid to schools and contacts, cases occurred every month with a maximum of eight in September.

## NOTIFICATIONS OF, AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

[illegible]

THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS FURNISHED BY  
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR UNDER THE SANITARY OFFICERS  
(OUTSIDE LONDON) REGULATIONS, 1935.

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SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS  
MADE DURING THE YEAR

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION:	Visits to houses	130
"	" Interviews	431
HOUSE INSPECTION:		
Public Health Act:	(including revisits)	856
Housing Act	( " "	45
Alleged Verminous premises		11
GENERAL SANITATION:		
Accumulations		21
Clinic		1
Day Nursery		17
Drainage		419
Defective dustbins		37
Factories		39
Outscavenging		11
Public conveniences		17
Rats and mice		204
Rats (sewer treatment)		87
Refuse collection		62
Refuse disposal Tip		25
"	Incinerator	9
"	New tips	5
Schools		37
Sewage works		17
Shops		62
Smoke observations		12
Stables		1
Theatres and cinemas		15
Water supply and watercourses		7
Miscellaneous		72
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.		376
MEAT AND FOOD:		
Bakehouses		14
Butchers		13
Farms		17
Fried fish shops		3
Ice cream premises		30
Preserved food premises		1
Restaurants and cafes		19
Unsound food		4



## SAMPLING:

### (a) MILK

Designated	8
Undesignated	13
Biological Test	8
Food and Drugs Act - Samples	25
Pasteurised and Sterilised	2

### (b) WATER

Bacteriological	33
Chemical	4
Plumbo-solvency	4

### (c) ICE CREAM

14

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Inquiries and revisits	134
Disinfections	42

## SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

### DISREPAIR

Roofs repaired	8
Walls and chimneys repaired	12
Defective plaster renewed or repaired	23
Windows repaired	14
Stairs repaired	1
Floors repaired or relaid	4
Outbuildings repaired	9
Sundry defects	1

### DAMPNESS:

Penetrating	14
-------------	----

### SANITARY DEFECTS:

Choked sewers cleansed	19
Choked gulleys cleansed	1
Choked drains cleansed	16
Drains repaired	6
Drains reconstructed	4
Waste water closet repaired	6
Waste water closets choked	25
Eaves gutters repaired	17
Rain water pipes repaired	3
Sink waste pipes repaired	2
Soil pipes repaired	2
New septic tanks	1

# MISCELLANEOUS:

Accumulations	11
Dustbins renewed	47
Dustbins - extra provided	46
Nuisance from animals	3
smells	6
smoke	3
flies	1
vermin	4
choked watercourses	1
Water under floor	3
Waste water closets converted	16
Trough closets converted	7
Additional water closets provided	17
Ashpits converted	3
Defective sewers	1
Septic tanks cleansed	1
Articles cleansed	2

# NOTICES:

## (a) INFORMAL

Outstanding - 31st December, 1949	56
Served during the year	103
Complied with	109
Outstanding - 31st December, 1950	50

## (b) STATUTORY

Outstanding - 31st December, 1949	5
Served during the year	10
Complied with	13
Outstanding - 31st December, 1950	2

## AMBULANCE SERVICE.

A steady demand was made on the ambulance service throughout the year, the majority of the work entailed the conveyance of patients to Hospitals mainly in the Skipton, Bradford, Leeds and Burnley areas. Details of the journeys and mileage run during the last five years are tabulated below:-

Year:	Journeys made	Mileage
1946	139	3,807
1947	253	8,455
1948	702	20,246
1949	689	15,580
1950	911	17,205



## AMBULANCE SERVICE - continued

The Council act as agents for the Local Health Authority (West Riding County Council) and this agency basis has been operated throughout the year. Co-operation has been maintained with adjacent ambulance divisions and in this way some economy has been effected.

It is hoped that the County Council will eventually be able to make substantial provisions for improvement and expansion of this service in this area.

The following table shows the number of patients taken to, and brought from, the various hospitals in the surrounding district and other places.

Hospitals:	1949	1950	
		Ambulance	Sitting car
Bank Hall Maternity, Victoria and General Hospitals, Burnley.	238	394	-
Eye & Ear, Royal and St. Luke's Hospitals, Bradford.	34	43	-
General, St. James' and Other Hospitals, Leeds.	34	32	-
Royal Infirmarys, Manchester and Salford.	3	13	-
District, Raikeswood and Maternity Hospital, Skipton.	310	368	6
Hartley and Langroyd Maternity Hospitals, Colne.	12	19	-
Preston.	32	-	-
Royal Bath Hospital and Infirmary, Harrogate.	-	5	-
Miscellaneous	26	31	-

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

### Slaughterhouses:

There are 4 private and 1 public slaughterhouse in the district. There is no centralised slaughtering.

### Meat Shops and Distributing Vehicles.

These have remained satisfactory throughout the year.

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are 13 licenced slaughtermen on the register.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS - continued

Unsound food:

During the year the following foodstuffs were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Beef	74 lb
Bacon	5 lb
Cooked Picnic Ham (4 tins)	5 lb

Bakehouses:

Number on Register ... .. 12

14 visits were made to the above premises and conditions were generally found to be satisfactory. Regular cleansing and limewashing were carried out. Coke fired ovens have been replaced in certain instances by electrically heated ovens.

There are no basement bakehouses in the district.

Fish Fryers:

Number on register ... .. 5

3 visits were made to these premises and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Preserved food premises:

Number on register ... .. 4

These premises have been inspected and were generally found to be satisfactory. It was necessary in one instance to call for the re-decoration of the shop premises and this was carried out.

Food & Drugs Act, 1938 - Sampling:

I am informed by the West Riding County Council, being the Food and Drugs Authority under the above Act, that the following items were taken by their officers during the year:-

	Genuine:	Adulterated:	Total:
Milk	21	-	21
Other foods	4	-	4
Drugs	-	-	-

No prosecutions were undertaken during the year.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS - continued

### Clean Food Campaigns:

Advice has been given to the occupiers of food premises during the course of visits and inspections, on matters concerning general and personal hygiene. Several premises have now been provided with suitable hot water facilities.

In two or three instances there were difficulties in regard to the storage of food, owing to the layout of the premises and some re-organisation was necessary.

### Food & Drugs Act, 1938 - Food Byclaws:

In December, 1949., the Council made application to the Minister of Food for confirmation of byclaws made by them under Section 15 of the above Act. These byclaws were confirmed on the 1st May, 1950.

### ICE CREAM:

Number of premises registered for the sale and manufacture of ice cream ... ..	4
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream ... ..	8

30 visits were made to these premises during the year and note was given to the cleanliness of utensils and plant. There is a definite tendency for retailers to obtain wrapped ice-cream from manufacturers. This is a step in the right direction as there is less contamination when serving.

14 samples of ice-cream were taken during the year and the bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Bradford. The results of these examinations are stated overleaf:-



Sample No	Methylene Blue decolourised at the end of			
	4½ hours:	2½-4 hours:	½ - 2 hours:	No hours:
	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV
1	1	-	-	-
2	-	1	-	-
3	-	1	-	-
4	-	1	-	-
5	-	-	-	1
6	-	1	-	-
7	-	-	-	1
8	-	1	-	-
9	1	-	-	-
10	-	1	-	-
11	1	-	-	-
12	1	-	-	-
13	1	-	-	-
14	1	-	-	-
Total:	6	6	-	2

Samples in Provision Grade I and II can be classified as being satisfactory, and Grades III and IV as unsatisfactory. Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results on any given sample. It is suggested that over a period of six months 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I; 80% into Grade I and II and not more than 20% into Grade II and none at all into Grade IV.

#### MILK AND DAIRIES.

The administration appertaining to Milk and Dairies as far as this Authority is concerned, has been reduced to a fair degree, owing to the operation of certain Acts and Regulations which became law on the 1st October, 1949. As a result, visits to farms for normal routine cowshed inspection no longer appear in this report as this is one of the duties now performed by officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The visits shown in the table on page relate specifically to visits made under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949., in regard to investigations into the milk supply.

#### Milk Supply:

It was found necessary on two occasions, to take action under the Milk Regulations, 1949. On both occasions notice was served by the Medical Officer of Health prohibiting the sale of milk for human consumption unless it was subjected to heat treatment. Investigations made by Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries into these cases resulted in two cows being slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

## MILK AND DAIRIES - continued

### Sampling.

The following table shows the number of milk samples taken during the year and the results thereof.

Milk:	Test:	Number		
		Taken:	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:
Tuberculin Tested	Methylene Blue	1	1	-
Accredited	"	7	5	2
Ordinary	"	13	10	3
Pasteurised	Phosphatase	2	1	1
Sterilised	Turbidity	-	-	-
All milks	Biological (Tubercle bacilli)	8	8	-

### Licences:

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

	Dealers licences	Supplementary licences
Tuberculin Tested(Pasteurised)	1	-
Pasteurised	-	2
Sterilised	-	1

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949.

	Dealers licences	Supplementary licences
Tuberculin Tested	1	-
Accredited	-	-

### HOUSING:

#### Allocation of houses.

The following table gives details of the number of applicants on the Council's waiting list, together with the re-housing that has taken place during the year.



## HOUSING - continued

No. of applicants on Register 31-12-49.			266
No. of applicants registered during 1950.			109
No. rehoused.			375
Rushton Avenue site	40	51	
Springfield Avenue	1		
Spring Mount	1		
Northolme Estate	9		
No. withdrawn		71	176
No. withdrawn after circularisation		54	
Total on Register 31-12-50			199

There are still some families living under unsatisfactory conditions due to lack of bedroom space. During the year the Council decided not to re-let any more bungalows on the Northolme Estate in view of the proposed redevelopment of this site.

### New Houses:

#### (a) Rushton Avenue Site.

The erection of 40 "Unity", 3 bedroom type prefabricated houses was completed, of these 39 were occupied by the end of the year. Four traditional two bedroom type houses of the 14 under contract were erected and occupied. This site will be completed by the erection of 8 old peoples bungalows. The total number of houses on this site will then be 112.

#### (b) Future development.

Future housing development planned by the Council includes the erection of 20 houses on sites at Kelbrook, Waterloo Road (8) and Dotcliffe Road (12) and approximately 100 houses on the Stoney Bank Road site. The completion of this development should effectually reduce the Council's present housing list.

Negotiations have continued in regard to the proposed purchase and redevelopment of the Northolme Estate. This provides for the replacement of the existing temporary prefabricated dwellings by permanent houses, and it is expected that this work will commence early in 1951.

### General:

Priority is given to-day to the erection of new houses which is only right and proper. In order, however, that there should be more stability in housing conditions generally, regard must eventually be given at national level to the state of existing dwellings. Many houses, during and since the war years, are suffering from lack of proper maintenance and repair. As each year goes by, more deterioration takes place. This is applicable to certain properties in this district. The cost of labour and building

## HOUSING - continued

materials, together with periodical shortages of materials, are such that some owners are unable to bring their houses into what one would classify as a "reasonable state of repair".

Rents of such houses are found to be controlled under the Rent Restriction Acts and rent incomes in these cases bear no comparison with present day cost of repairs. Some amendment in legislation is surely required in order that this state of affairs is remedied. Fortunately, in this district there are not many cases where deterioration has become a major problem.

The work of the Sanitary Inspector, however, in this sphere is becoming more arduous especially as legislation does not adequately cover present day conditions.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

### Refuse collection and Disposal:

No change in the methods of collection and disposal was made during the year. The house refuse is collected once fortnightly and for this purpose a motor vehicle is used, but it is unable to negotiate some of the back streets. A horse drawn cart is, therefore, employed, and also empties the few remaining ashpits every 4-6 weeks.

The Council gave further consideration to a report dealing with the refuse collection service, its future commitments, and suggestions for the establishment of a separate department, as distinct from the present arrangements. A Karrier "Bantam" refuse freighter, of modern design, has been ordered by the Council, and the establishment of a separate department will take place with a weekly collection of refuse, on the arrival of this vehicle.

The Council's refuse tip is situated off Stoney Bank Road. This tip was originally an old quarry site, and is now gradually filling up. The refuse is consolidating and the surface area presents a satisfactory appearance. There is still a fair amount of tipping space available, but the Council are now seeking alternative tipping sites.

Outscavenging duties in the Kelbrook area, which are carried out by contract have been satisfactorily attended to during the year.

### Salvage:

During the early part of the year, the price of mixed waste paper remained at £3-10-0d to £3-15-0d per ton. Collections were made from shop premises, but there did not appear to be any indication at the time of a reasonable price being guaranteed.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE - continued

Towards the end of the year the stocks of waste paper at the Board Mills had fallen rapidly and in consequence the supply of material vital to the export trade, and the industry as a whole was severly restricted. An appeal was sent out by the trade to all local authorities to recommence salvage. A reasonable price was agreed upon and the Council have now obtained a contract with a firm and are once again salvaging waste paper. The demand for waste paper at the present time is very acute owing to the heavy calls made on the paper industry by the export drive and house building programme.

So long as a reasonable price for this commodity is guaranteed, local authorities will assist, but it is important to remember that the success of any waste paper campaign devolves on the whole hearted co-operation and support of the general public.

The materials collected were as follows:-

	WEIGHT:			INCOME:		
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	S.	D.
Paper	37	12	1	266	19	4
Scrap					4	0
Bones		10	0	2	17	6
	<u>38</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>

### COST OF COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

#### EXPENDITURE:

#### COLLECTION:

Wages	1,030	14	7			
Haulage	733	18	11			
Materials	21	4	5			
Outscavenging	6	13	4			
Ashpit conversions	2	3	8			
Depot	37	18	10			
Printing etc.,	2	7	6			
Other expenses	<u>26</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>	1,861.	13.	8.

# COST OF COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL - continued

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
<u>DISPOSAL:</u>									
Wages: Tip	269	1	7						
Incinerator	69	7	5						
Haulage	28	18	10						
Repairs and									
Maintenance	93	15	7						
Rates & Insurance	3	19	9						
Laon charges	35	1	5	500.	4.	7.			
				GROSS COST.....			2,361.	18.	3.

## INCOME:

<u>Salvage:</u>									
Waste paper	266	19	4						
Other salvage	3	1	6						
Sale of dustbins	8	10	10						
Emptying ash pits	1	11	3	280	2	11			
<u>Disposal:</u>									
Tipping charges	20	17	0						
Tip rents		13	0						
Rent of Booth							329	2	11
Bridge Farm	27	10	0	49	0	0	2,032	15	4
				NETT COST.....					

							s.	d.
age nett cost per load							33.	4.
age nett cost per ton							25.	5.
ber of loads removed: Motor vehicle			659	}				
Horse and Cart			563	}				
imated weight of ( Motor vehicle			1175	tons)			1,222	loads.
efuse removed ( Horse and Cart			423	" )			1,598	tons.

his figure relates to the value of waste paper sent to the Board Mill up  
o 31st March, 1951.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

### Public conveniences:

There are 4 public conveniences installed in the district. Three  
of modern construction but the convenience sited at Kelbrook is practically  
complete and arrangements have been made to replace it with one of modern design.  
visits were made and conditions were generally found to be satisfactory.

Closet conversions.

16 waste water closets were converted during the year and 16 additional closets provided at premises other than those newly erected. The Council have agreed to provide some financial assistance in the conversion of waste water closets at food premises.

FACTORIES.

## 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH:

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	9	4	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) above in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	39	35	3	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out-workers premises).				
Total:	48	39	3	-

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences			
(a) insufficient	3	2	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	3	2	-
(c) not separate (sexes)	1	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-
Total:	7	5	-



### SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Number of observations of 30 minutes duration ... ..	12
Number of minutes of black smoke ... ..	20.25
Average time of black smoke emitted per observation	1.69
Average time of smoke emitted per observation ... ..	13.1

It was not found necessary to call attention to any infringement of the Council's byelaws relating to black smoke emission. It was noticed, however, that the amount of smoke emitted from the factory chimneys in this area was higher than previously. It would be advisable to check the pollution of the atmosphere in this area by the installation of suitable apparatus at a convenient site.

### RODENT CONTROL.

The department is responsible for the administration of the relevant provisions of the Damage by Pests Act, 1949. It is not generally realised that under this Act, occupiers of land, which includes dwellinghouses, business premises, etc., have a responsibility to keep land or premises in their occupation free from rats and mice. In certain instances, however, where it is deemed advisable to perform a whole scale treatment of an area, the local authority are given powers to carry this out.

There was a higher incidence of rodent infestations during the year, mainly due to the inclement weather, which forced rats and mice to seek shelter and food.

204 visits were made during the year in order to deal with complaints received. No heavy infestations were encountered but regular and systematic treatments have been carried out, whenever weather conditions permitted, at the Council's refuse tip, sewage works and Depot. Minor infestations at individual properties were dealt with, and where necessary, structural work executed.

### Sewers:

During April a test was performed on 10% of the manholes of the Council's sewerage system. 37 manholes were baited and revisited 48 hours later. The results revealed, "no take" in 32 manholes, the bait was washed away in 4 manholes, and in one manhole, situated in Grove Street, a "partial take" was recorded.

The Technical Section of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries advised, that in view of these results, no sewer treatments need be carried out during the year. It was necessary, however, to treat the sewers in the Grove Street, Shuttleworth Street area, together with adjacent sewers.

The total number of inspections in regard to the baiting and treatment of sewers was 87.

# APPENDIX 1

## METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

Month	Rainfall in inches		No. of days on which rain fell		Sunshine in hours	
	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950
January	2.43	2.83	19	13	33.70	19.75
February	3.38.	8.18	16	16	68.05	54.1
March	1.19	1.95	13	15	113.50	83.1
April	4.7	3.04	18	22	116.7	97.7
May	2.52	2.12	15	14	151.8	134.4
June	0.43	2.72	7	13	206.5	183.0
July	2.54	3.22	14	16	147.8	169.45
August	3.67	6.8	13	22	142.4	114.15
September	1.18	6.75	8	25	117.75	73.85
October	5.27	3.63	19	13	60.85	64.1
November	5.45	5.39	22	25	27.75	42.35
December	8.67	2.16	24	18	13.70	27.85
Total:	41.53	48.79	188	212	1200.50	1063.80
Monthly averages	3.46	4.06	15.6	17.7	100.42	88.65

The rainfall was the highest since 1938.

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.

DIVISION NO.1.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR 1950.

CONTENTS.

1. General Description.
2. Divisional Staff.
3. Health Centres.
4. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
5. Midwifery Services.
6. Health Visiting.
7. Home Nursing.
8. Vaccination and Immunisation.
9. Ambulance Service.
10. Mental Health Service.
11. Home Help Service.
12. Prevention of Illness and After Care.
13. National Assistance Act, 1948.
14. The School Health Service.





## 1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The Division consists of the following districts:-

	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Area in Acres.</u>
Silsden Urban District.	5,854	7,101
Earby Urban District.	5,287	3,518
Skipton Urban District.	13,400	4,211
Barnoldswick Urban District.	10,490	2,764
Skipton Rural District.	23,720	146,087

(Ø Registrar General's figures for 1949)).

Social conditions have changed little during the year, and there has been full employment available for both men and women.

Although a certain amount of building has taken place in each district, it has had no appreciable effect on the general housing position, and many people are still compelled to live in very overcrowded and unsatisfactory conditions. The ill effects which result are both physical and psychological, and go far beyond the obvious sequelae of domestic unhappiness and frustration.

## 2. DIVISIONAL STAFF - as at 31st December, 1950.

### (1) MEDICAL OFFICERS.

M. Hunter.	M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.,	Divisional Medical Officer.
B.M. Leakey.	M.B., B.S.,	Assistant County Medical Officer.
D. Tillotson.	M.B., Ch.B.	Clinic doctors working on a sessional basis.
A.B. Morrison.	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	
G.D.G. Cameron.	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	
L. Symons.	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	

### (2) OTHER OFFICERS ON DIVISIONAL ESTABLISHMENT.

#### (a) Professional and Technical Staff.

Health Visitors/School Nurses.	10.
Home Nurses.	5.
Home Nurse/Midwives.	6.
Home Nurse/Midwives/Health Visitors.	3.
Midwives.	3.

OTHER OFFICERS - continued.

Ø Tuberculosis Health Visitor.	1.
Ø Mental Health Social Worker.	1.
Ø Home Teacher (under Mental Deficiency Acts).	1.
Ø Venereal Diseases Social Worker.	1.
Duly Authorised Officer.	1.

(Ø indicates part time in No. 1. Division).

(b) Day Nursery Staff.

Matron.	1.
Deputy Matron.	1.
Nursery Assistants.	3.
Nursery Students.	4.
Cooks and Domestics.	3.

(c) Administrative and Clerical.

Administrative (Chief Clerk).	1.
Clerical.	6.

(d) Home Helps.

Full time.	16.
Part time.	6.

(e) Other Domestic Staff.

Part time.	<u>3.</u>
Total Divisional Staff.	<u><u>76.</u></u>

The Division has again been fortunate in having a fairly full complement of staff throughout the year, and every effort has been made to provide the maximum assistance to patients, general medical practitioners, hospitals and schools. The health and medical services are to-day the concern of many individual agencies, and authorities, and it is considered that the provision of such assistance and co-operation with all concerned is essential if the community is to derive benefits commensurate with the very great expense incurred by the provision of services.

Monthly staff conferences have again been held during the year and are now well established as a valuable feature of our organisation.

Co-operation with the sanitary inspectors and other officers employed by the five Local Authorities within the Division increases year by year and the County Council's staff is indebted to them for much assistance and helpful advice.

## HEALTH CENTRES.

No progress has been made with the establishment of health centres or multiple clinics; nor is there any prospect of this until our economic position improves. This is very unfortunate, as the opening of health centres was one of the basic principles of the National Health Service Act; and in the absence of multiple clinics, the use of buildings quite unsuited for such purposes has had to be continued. Much valuable work has, however, been done under difficulties, and the attendances at most clinics have been very satisfactory.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

### (a) BIRTHS.

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 203.

Return of births notified in the Divisional Area during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1950.

Details	Domiciliary		Institutional		Total.
	Live	Still	Live	Still	
(a) Primary Notifications	241	1	451	11	704
(b) Add Inward Transfers	2	-	232	7	241
(c) Total Notifications Received	243	1	683	18	945
(d) Deduct Outward Transfers	2	-	66	3	71
(e) Total adjusted Births	241	1	617	15	874

### Analysis of Institutional Births.

Born in (a) Hospitals

(b) Maternity Homes

(c) Nursing Homes

Total:

620	18
57	-
6	-
683	18



(b) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Name and Address of Centre	Number of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month	Number of children who attended during the year	Number of Children who first attended during the yr. and who on the date of their first attendances were:--			Number of Children in attendance at the end of the year who were:--			Total number of attendances made by children during the year
			Under 4		Over 4	Under 6		Over 6	
			Under 4 of age	Over 4 of age	Under 4 of age	Under 6 of age	Over 6 of age	Under 6 of age	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall	8	317	108	10	109	208	2,572	1,045	
Earby Old Grammar School	8	184	57	5	66	118	1,371	373	
Gargrave The Institute	2	60	43	17	24	37	247	156	
Crosshills Ebenezer Sunday School	4	219	98	19	75	144	1,220	558	
Grassington Church House	2	82	24	5	24	58	269	383	
Silsden Kirkgate Sunday School	4	199	63	14	60	134	871	505	
Skipton Water Street School	12	396	146	29	125	271	2,803	2,408	

(c) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Name and Address of Clinic.	No. of Sessions now held per month.	No. of women in attendance		Total No. of attendances made by women during the year.
		No. of women who attended during the year.	No. of women in previous column who had not previously attended an A/N clinic during current pregnancy.	
Goldswick Methodist Hall Levy Street	2	95	71	269
By Grammar School	1	39	39	133
Shills Leezer Day School	2	27	25	150
ssington rch House	1	22	21	82
nden gate Methodist ay School	2	17	17	89
ton er Street School	2	12	10	70 (clinic closed March, 1950)
Total for 6 clinics	10	212	183	793

ANTE-NATAL HOSTEL.

The County Council's hostel at Brighthouse has been available for expectant mothers requiring rest rather than special forms of treatment, but few patients have been admitted from the Division. This is probably due to a combination of circumstances; disinclination to leave home and family when not acutely ill, distance from home, and the fact that in contrast to the hospital service, attendance therein is not entirely free of cost.

(e) DENTAL CARE.

Expectant mothers have been referred to local dental practitioners when in need of dental care. This has been necessary in the absence of a dental clinic and adequate staff, and we are indebted to the dentists for their co-operation in giving this priority treatment.

(f) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs or less at birth, irrespective of the period of gestation. Such infants born in hospital or maternity home are cared for there, and others born in unsuitable homes may be transferred. Special equipment, clothing, oxygen etc., is, however, kept in the Division for treating premature babies in their own homes and conveyed by ambulance on the midwife's request. This equipment was used on two occasions during the year.

(g) DAY NURSERIES.

This service provides for the care of the young child whose mother is ill; the illegitimate child whose mother goes out to work; the children of parents living in conditions likely to be injurious to their health; the child of a widow who has to work to keep her family; and the children of mothers engaged in essential industry.

The Early Day Nursery which has 40 places and a waiting list, has been open throughout the year. Training for the syllabus of the National Nursing Examination Board has been undertaken there.

Construction of the long awaited day nursery in Barnoldswick started towards the end of the year.

No night accommodation is available within the Division.

(h) NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATIONS ACT, 1948.

The supervision of nurseries and homes where daily minders receive children for reward is now the responsibility of the Local Health Authority.

No applications for registration were received during the year although some daily minding is carried out, the numbers cared for have presumably never reached the statutory permitted number which makes registration compulsory.

(i) CARE OF THE UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Arrangements are made for admission to hospital, to homes administered by voluntary organisations, or for domiciliary confinement, depending on the circumstances of each case. The assistance of the health visitors and midwives is always available, and considerable help has been received from the Organising Secretary of the Bradford Diocesan Moral Welfare Council.



## MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

Three whole-time midwives are employed, and nine midwives undertake both midwifery and home nursing. This has been found by experience to be the most practical method in the rural areas.

Good progress has been made in training midwives in the use of gas and air analgesia, and equipping them with apparatus.

## STATISTICS.

Number of maternity cases in the Divisional Area attended by midwives during the year:-

		Domiciliary		Institutional		Total	
		As Mid-wives	As Maternity Nurses	As Mid-wives	As Maternity Nurses	As Mid-wives	As Maternity Nurses
1) Midwives employed by the Authority							
(a) Whole-time	3	101	6	-	-	101	6
(b) Home Nurse/Midwives	9	58	79	-	-	58	79
2) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations		-	-	-	-	-	-
3) Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees		-	-	412	50	412	50
4) Midwives in Private Practice							
(a) Nursing Homes		-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Others		-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		159	85	412	50	571	135

## HEALTH VISITING.

Health visitors are provided for home visiting, for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. Such are their duties under the National Health Service Act. In practice they do much more in this Division, including attendance at ante-natal, child welfare, and school clinics, work as school nurses, and in following up patients discharged from hospital.

## HEALTH VISITING - continued

Having access to their homes, and the supervision of children from shortly after birth to the time they leave school, the health visitor is in a position to exercise her knowledge and skill in a wide variety of circumstances, to give advice on a multitude of problems, and to promote healthy living conditions in the homes she visits. Her work has been for many years and remains of great value to the community.

### STATISTICS.

Number of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year:

	<u>First Visits.</u>	<u>Total Visits.</u>
(1) Expectant Mothers	154	286
(2) Children under 1 year of age	795	6,038
(3) Children between 1 and 5 years	53	8,798
(4) Other cases	<u>391</u>	<u>1,152</u>
	<u>1,393</u>	<u>16,274</u>

### 7. HOME NURSING.

It is the County Council's responsibility for securing the attendance of nurses on persons who require nursing in their own homes. This has been done by the provision of five whole-time nurses, and of nine who combine home nursing with midwifery. An efficient service has thus been provided throughout the Division, and an improved system for off duty and holiday relief has recently been introduced. This is necessary as the calls on the home nursing service are very heavy in some places, varying inversely with availability of hospital beds.

A summary of the work done by the home nurses is as follows:

(1) Number of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year:	<u>33,492</u>
(2) Number of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year (excluding midwifery and maternity cases).	<u>1,850</u>

### 8. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Under the National Health Service Act the Local Health Authority has a statutory duty to make arrangements for persons in its area to be vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria. Both procedures are now voluntary and therein lies a danger; for in the present relative freedom from outbreaks of smallpox, and a diphtheria incidence and death rate greatly reduced in the past decade, there is a natural tendency to forget that these results have been achieved almost entirely by vaccination and immunisation, and that these procedures must be continued if the position is to be maintained.



## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION - continued

Vaccination and immunisation are therefore offered to the parents of all babies, and if desired, are carried out by their medical practitioner or at any infant welfare centre. Immunisation is again offered when the child reaches school age. Although there have been no cases of diphtheria in the Division during the year, the aim of protecting 75% of all children against this disease has not been reached. Until it is, propaganda by every available method must be maintained.

Lymph for vaccination is available free of charge from the Public Health Laboratory, and diphtheria prophylactics from the Health Office. Whooping Cough vaccine is not issued through the Health Office; for the results of the Medical Research Council's trials are not yet available, and its efficiency is as yet unproven.

### STATISTICS.

a) Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during the year:-

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 yr.	1 to 4 yrs.	5 to 14 yrs.	15 yrs. or over.	Total.
Number vaccinated	90	89	20	29	228
Number re-vaccinated	1	5	7	58	71

b) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria during the year.

Age at date of final injection		
Under 5	5 to 14	Total.
425	175	580

(c) Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (i.e., subsequent to complete full course) during the year = 379.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Division is fully covered by the County Council's service or by vehicles operated on its behalf on an agency basis.

Silsdon Urban District and adjacent parishes are served by the Koighley depot, with the exception of Addingham and Beamsley which are served by the Guiseley depot.



## AMBULANCE SERVICE - continued

The Barnoldswick and Earby ambulances cover these urban districts and the adjoining parishes of the Skipton Rural District. A St. John's Ambulance Brigade vehicle is located at Grassington and deals with calls from Upper Wharfedale. The remainder of the Division is served by ambulances located in Skipton, from the main depot at Burnside House.

## 10. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

The functions devolving upon the Local Health Authority under existing legislation relating to mental treatment and mental deficiency are as follows:-

- (a) The appointment of duly authorised officers to take initial proceedings for removal to hospital of persons who are to be dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.
- (b) The duty under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913-38 of ascertaining whether persons in the area are defectives, providing suitable supervision for them, guardianship or institutional care; and making arrangements for the provision of suitable training or occupation for defectives not in institutions.
- (c) The duty to make arrangements for the care and after care of persons suffering from mental illness or mental defectiveness, so far as provision is not otherwise made.
- (d) The provision of an ambulance service for the purpose of the mental health service.

Under the terms of paragraph (a) the duly authorised officers have dealt with the following cases during the year:-

(1) Number of cases certified under Section 16 of the Lunacy Act, 1890	25
(2) Number of cases dealt with under Section 20	-
(3) Number of cases dealt with under Section 21	-
(4) Number of cases where assistance has been given in obtaining admission under Section 1 of the Mental Treatment Act.	-
(5) Cases dealt with under Section 2 of the Mental Treatment Act.	-
(6) Other cases referred for action, but where it was not found necessary to proceed under the Lunacy or Mental Treatment Acts.	8

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE - continued

For the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, the services of a mental health social worker have been shared with Divisions 2 and 3. It has been her responsibility to supervise the defectives and to ensure that they are adequately controlled and cared for: To provide reports for mental hospitals patients admitted, on licence, or discharged; and to provide similar information for mental deficiency institutions.

In addition, she has given valuable assistance to the Educational Psychologist in the conduct of his Child Guidance Clinics organised under the School Health Service.

These duties have left no time for the training and teaching of defectives, but some of this work has been undertaken by a Home Teacher. As yet, there is no Occupation Centre in the area to undertake this work, and to which suitable defectives could be taken each day.

The difficulty in securing accommodation for mental defectives in institutions under the control of the Regional Hospital Board persists, but as the worst of our cases were eventually admitted during the year, the problem has become less acute, for the time being at any rate.

## STATISTICS.

Particulars of mental defectives as on 1st January, 1951.

1. Number of Ascertained Mental Defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with":-

	Male	Female	Total
(a) On Licence from Institutions			
(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	-	1	1
(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom)			
(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	2	-	2
(c) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)			
(Under 16 years of age)	3	9	12
(Over 16 years of age)	24	16	40
Number of cases included in (b) and (c) above awaiting removal to an institution.	2	4	6
2. Number of mental defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with" but over whom some form of voluntary supervision is maintained:-			
(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	6	1	7



STATISTICS - continued

3. Number of mental defectives receiving training:

(a) In Occupation Centres:

(Under 16 years of age)

(Age 16 years and over)

(b) At home:

4. Of the total number of mental defectives known to the Local Health Authority -

(a) Number who have given birth to children during 1950:-

(1) After marriage

(2) While unmarried

(b) Number who have married during 1950:-

Male	Female	Total
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	5	5
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

11. HOME HELP SERVICE.

The object of this service is to provide assistance for the ill, the lying-in, expectant mothers, the mentally defective, the aged, and for children of school age usually when the mother is in hospital. Its scope is therefore enormous, and when this is coupled with a shortage of hospital accommodation it will be appreciated that it is rarely possible to satisfy all the demands which are now made on the service, despite the fact that the divisional allocation of home helps was increased from eleven to seventeen during the year. Although it is not a free service, the scale which is operated for the recovery of fees is generous.

Difficulty has again been experienced in obtaining the most suitable staff, and this is likely to continue while full employment is available in more attractive occupations and trades.

In very rural areas, there is nearly always difficulty in providing home helps, for most country women are fully occupied with their own work, and a natural disinclination combined often with travelling difficulties make it almost impossible to arrange for help to be sent from the nearest town.

The number of home helps employed on 31st December was:-

(1) Whole-time	16
(2) Part-time	<u>6</u>
	<u>22</u>

The number of cases provided with help during the year, and their classification is as follows:-



(1) Illness (excluding aged)	-
(a) Tuberculosis	72
(b) Other	
(2) Lying-in	110
(3) Expectant mothers	14
(4) Mentally defective	-
(5) Aged	
(a) Illness	52
(b) Infirmary	23
(6) Children of school age	7
	<hr/> 278 <hr/> <hr/>

The opinion expressed last year that there is a need for a limited number of whole time salaried home helps is still held in this Division. These helps could be directed to homes (particularly those of the aged and semi-invalid), as the occasion arises, and do as much or as little work as the circumstances indicated. At best this might be little more than a routine visit; at worst almost a full time job. Their employment would go far toward easing the burdens of such people, and reduce the time taken up by supervision and administration under the existing organisation.

#### PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE.

This is a matter which has for a very long time been the concern of all health authorities, and now that it is their statutory duty under the National Health Service Act they are in the process of expanding their work to cover a wide field which will eventually be of great benefit to the community.

During the year, each home nurse has been provided with sick room equipment for issue on loan to their patients: crutches, special beds, invalid chairs etc., have also been supplied to those in need.

Convalescent Home treatment has been provided for varying periods for patients recommended by their medical practitioners, and extra milk supplied to certain patients suffering from tuberculosis.

Assistance has been given, and a close liaison maintained with the hospitals, the Chest Physician, N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, Probation Officer, Area Welfare Officer, National Assistance Board, Blind Persons Teacher and the Disabled Rehabilitation Officer where joint action was indicated.

The dissemination of information on the prevention of illness is regarded as the responsibility of all members of the staff; and leaflets, posters, display sets etc., have been provided to assist them in this work. The personal approach is probably the best method of promoting health education, although other methods will be used when time and staff permit.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE.- continued

This section of the report is an appropriate one in which to refer to the care of old people, for we are an ageing nation, and their welfare is of increasing importance.

If this trend continues, many current ideas and conceptions must change, particularly those associated with retirement, for quite apart from the question of national economics, there is an increasing realisation that most people are far happier and live longer when they feel that they are doing a useful job of work, provided it is within their physical and mental capabilities.

Unfortunately, whilst people are living longer, there is a tendency to accept family responsibilities less readily than in the past, and the housing shortage accentuates the difficulties which often arise when different generations are compelled to share limited accommodation. The lot of many aged people is therefore not a happy one.

Efforts to improve it are being made, and during the year, a number of committees were formed in the Division which are exploring the ways and means by which assistance suitable to each individual case can be given. The Old Folks Rest Centre in Skipton is an outstanding example of what can be done.

Two homes for aged people are located in the Division, Farfield Hall, near Addingham, and The Shroggs at Steeton; but the provision of such accommodation can never be the solution to this great problem, and it is now recognised that old people are usually far happier if they can stay in their own homes, and their maintenance there is much less expensive than in a hostel or hospital.

### 13. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 of this Act provides that "where a Medical Officer of Health of a county district certifies that a person is suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm, or physically handicapped, is living in insanitary conditions and is unable to devote to himself and is not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the county district council may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable hospital or other place and be maintained there. During the year it became necessary to take action under this section on two occasions, but only after very careful consideration and the failure of all other methods of approach.

### 14. THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The arrangements whereby each child is medically examined at least three times during school life have been continued along with special examinations, and re-examinations as necessary. Details are as follows:-



a) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups:-

Entrants:	867
Second Age Group:	586
Third Age Group:	<u>351</u>

Total: 1,804

Number of other periodic inspections: 665

Grand Total: 2,469

b) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections:	388
Number of re-inspections.	<u>160</u>

Total: 548

(c) DEFECTS FOUND.

Group	Defective Vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in table of defects	Total individual pupils
Entrants	14	134	129
Second Age Group	84	83	153
Third Age Group	51	40	85
Total (prescribed groups)	149	257	367
Other periodic inspections	29	106	120
Grand Total:	178	363	487



(d) RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

(All defects noted at medical inspection as requiring treatment are included in this return, whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of inspection).

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects			
	Periodic Requiring Treatment	Inspections Requiring observat- ion but not treat- ment	Special Inspections. Requiring Treat- ment	Requiring observat- ion but not treat- ment
Skin	8	12	1	1
Eyes (a) Vision	178	44	52	4
(b) Squint	28	12	5	-
(c) Other	15	6	9	-
Ears (a) Hearing	2	5	3	3
(b) Otitis media	10	9	5	1
(c) Other	4	3	6	-
Nose or Throat	142	131	17	2
Speech	14	6	5	7
Cervical Glands	6	20	3	6
Heart and Circulation	5	40	1	7
Lungs	16	79	2	10
Developmental (a) Hernia	-	7	1	2
(b) Other	1	20	5	4
Orthopaedic (a) Posture	9	25	2	7
(b) Flat Foot	38	17	9	4
(c) Other	28	18	4	4
Nervous System (a) Epilepsy	1	-	-	1
(b) Other	1	11	1	2
Psychological (a) Development	2	11	-	3
(b) Stability	6	3	-	3
Other	27	29	2	4
Total	541	508	133	75

CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF ALL PUPILS  
DURING A ROUTINE EXAMINATION.

Age Group	Number of pupils inspected	(A) Good		(B) Fair		(C) Poor	
		No.	% of Col.2.	No.	% of Col.2.	No.	% of Col.2.
Infants	867	629	72.55%	235	27.1%	3	.35%
1st Age Group	586	334	57%	240	41%	12	.2%
2nd Age Group	351	235	66.95%	116	33.04%	-	-
3rd Age Group	665	386	58%	279	42%	-	-
Total	2,469	1,584	64.2%	870	35.2%	15	.6%

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

Observation and treatment clinics are held in Skipton and Arncliffe each week, and ultra violet light treatment is available in both towns.

Special clinics are held for Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat, Eye and Speech Defects.

A Child Guidance Clinic is held every fortnight.

A close liaison is maintained with the general medical practitioners at all times, and particularly in the rural areas where clinic facilities are necessarily limited.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

A register is maintained of all pupils who, owing to some mental or physical disability require special educational treatment. At the end of the year 47 pupils were included, the division into the various classes being as follows:-

Blind	2	Delicate	6
Partially Sighted	1	Physically handicapped	12
Deaf	7	Educationally sub-	
Partially Deaf	2	normal	14
Maladjusted	3		

HANDICAPPED PUPILS - continued.

The number of pupils who were away at special schools at the end of the year was 18., the details being as follows:-

Schools for Deaf Children	6
" " Blind "	1
" " Partially Sighted Children	1
" " Delicate Children	4
" " Crippled "	2
" " Maladjusted Children	4





